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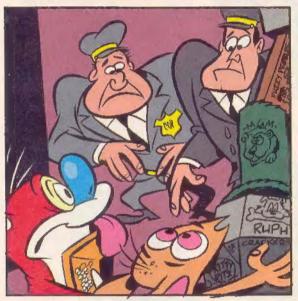








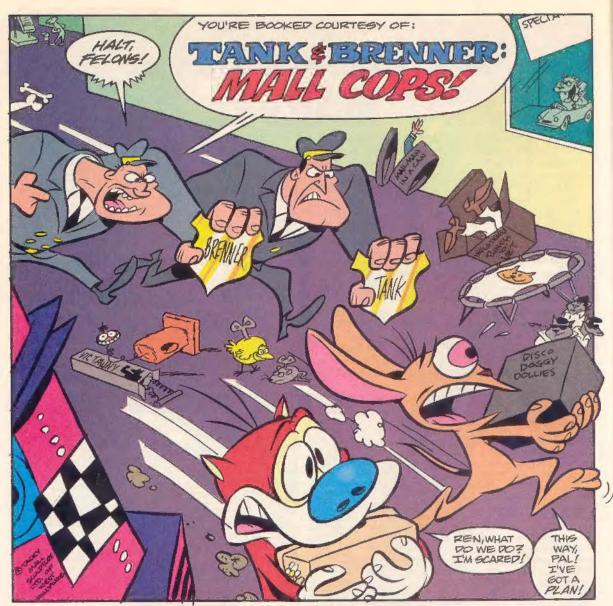


























































POWERSD TOAST MAN'NG THE KINGS OF CROWE!

















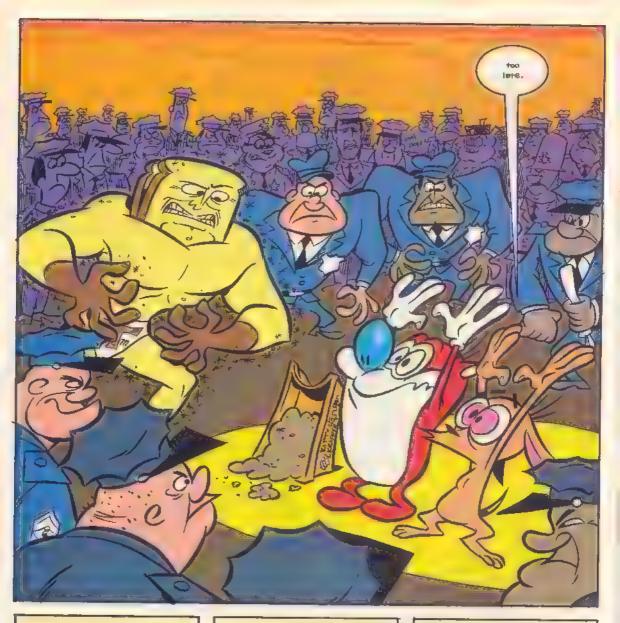












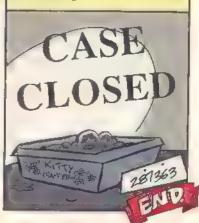
Ren Höek was sentenced to 20 years up the river. If after a trial period he shows signs of good behavior, he'll be transferred to dry land.



Stimpson J. Cat is currently serving out his time in solitary confinement for the hygienic safety of the other prisoners.



All charges against the KITTY KRAPPER 5000™ were dropped. It now resides in Waco, Texas with its wife and family.



TOM TALKS

Every time I visit a comic book shop these days, I seem to find some new magazine or book whose sole purpose is to act as an authoritative investment guide for our illustrative industry. These publications, which are springing up faster than Quicksilver on a runaway Pym particle, assign allegedly objective monetary values to comic book back issues. In some cases, they even publish prices on comics which have yet to be printed. These publications define the comics that are not, and those that are not

guess all of these investment guides serve a purpose because an awful lot of people seem to be buy ing them. However it wasn't all that long ago when life was simpler -and a bit more enjoyable, in my humble opinion when the readers used to define a comic's popularity all by themselves. If they liked a

certain title they bought it. 'Nuff said!

honestly have no problem with any of these guides, nor with those who feel compe, ed to use them. Whether someone buys comics for pure enjoyment or as a lucrative addition to his stock portfolio is hardly any of my business. As our peerless publisher Stan the Man, once exclaimed in a letters page of iong ago. "Heck, we don't even care if you buy them for the staples as long as you buy them!

On the other hand, sincerely believe that our comics are the very best this industry has ever seen Anyone not reading them is missing out on an incredible, ever-expanding universe of pure entertainment. They have it all - drame, pathos, humor, and even the occasional, odd bit of offbeat philosophy. Many of them also go up in value according to the investment tipsheets, but that's really beside the point

Marvel has often been accused of fueling this speculator investment mentality. OUCH! That really hurts. We started to put enhancements on our covers because we thought the special injes and foils helped to make them look really special. We started putting comics in plastic bags because we wanted to included special trading cards and posters .. and, because so many readers had complained over the years whenever we had simply stapled them into our

Trust me, no true cornic book professional ever sits down at the word processor, drawing board, or desk thinking about the prices his or her comics will attain on the back issue market. We're always focused on the story. Is it good clear, and exciting enough? Will the readers like it? Will it expand the vistas of their imagination? Will they want more?

Speaking for myself, as well as my brothers and sisters in the comics industry. I have a special plea to all of you investors out there. Rip open your bags. Set your comics free! Read them!

If we've been doing our jobs properly, you'll be glad you did!

Thanks for being there

Tom D

- an

ake the neighbors, and phone the kids, as Dave "the 16 million do ar man" Letterman used to say. It's time for another eyeopening Builpen Page

Our very own "Professor" James Felder, assistant editor to Hildy Mesnik, was responsible for a few rude awakenings on a recent episode of TV's "Good Day New York" show Professor Felder, who never talks in his sleep - but he has been known to hum old Bee Gees tunes - Is a member of the New York University Pipe Band. Together with two other

ators of our WORLD CHAMPI-ONSHIP WRESTLING comic (which has been permanently pinned as of issue #12), writer Mike Lackey, and inker Don Hudson. Also on hand were PUNISHER assistant editor Tim Tuchy - who's been working on SLEEPWALKER so long, he could do it in his sleep — and Bullpenner Spencer Lemm — who would prefer it if you touch him in the morning and then just walk away. Dishing out the award were a couple of dishes who always sleep in twin beds - the world-famous Barbi Twins John Romita Jr., who

wishes you would wake him up before you go-go -- not after - received a write-up in the January issue of Runner's World magazine. JRJR said that he uses exercise as a method of dealing with the pressures of tight deadlines. Or, as he put it, "The only thing that preserves my sanity is running." The article describes how a comic book is created from start to finish (and they actually got it right!), and details John's career at Marvel, mentioning his work on such titles as X-MEN, SPIDER-MAN and DAREDEVIL. Also quoted in the article is running enthusiast/PUNISHER editor Don Daley who sleeps with one eye open - and one nostril closed

Clive Barker, whose stories are so scary they could wake the dead, dropped by the Marvel offices recently to check out the ultra-superheroic new Barkerverse. Clive met with Epic editor Marc McLaurin, who doesn't know which to smell first when he wakes up -- the coffee or the roses. Coming in July are four new Cliveenfic titles which promise plenty of badtime stories: HYPERKIND ECTO-KID, HOKUM & HEX, and SAINT SINNER. Marc promises the new books will be "super heroes with a Barkerian twist!" That's enough to give even Pin-Head nightmares.

With all these new books coming out, you may not be able to sleep at night. But that's okay. Like Bori Jovi says, you can sleep when

vou're dead!



fellow pipers, the Prof went door to door with Star Trak's "Scotty," Jimmy Doohan (who's not a bagpiper, but he plays one on TV), waking up everyone they met. "Scotty" was in town to emcee the NY bagpiping festival, and apparently was so impressed by the Professor's playing, that he was inspired to go out and buy a kilt. The Prof was nighly critica. of Scotty's playing in the movie Star Trek 2, commenting, "He may know his way around the Enterprise, but he pipes like a Klingon!"

One guy who never gets up on the wrong side of the mat is wrestling great Paul E. Dangerously who this past December was awarded Manager of the Year in a star-studded ceremony that put us all in a sleeperhold n attendance were two of the cre-

HYPELIME: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- AKIRA TP9 #8: It a Otomo-rifici ALPHA FLIGHT #120: Polybagged with a poster a pin-up, and a puppy
- AMAZING SPIDER MAN #377 What is Cardiac's connection to
- BARBLE #29: Babysitting is fought is fighting a counter CAPTAIN AMERICA ANNUAL #12
- Introducing the Satting Santam!

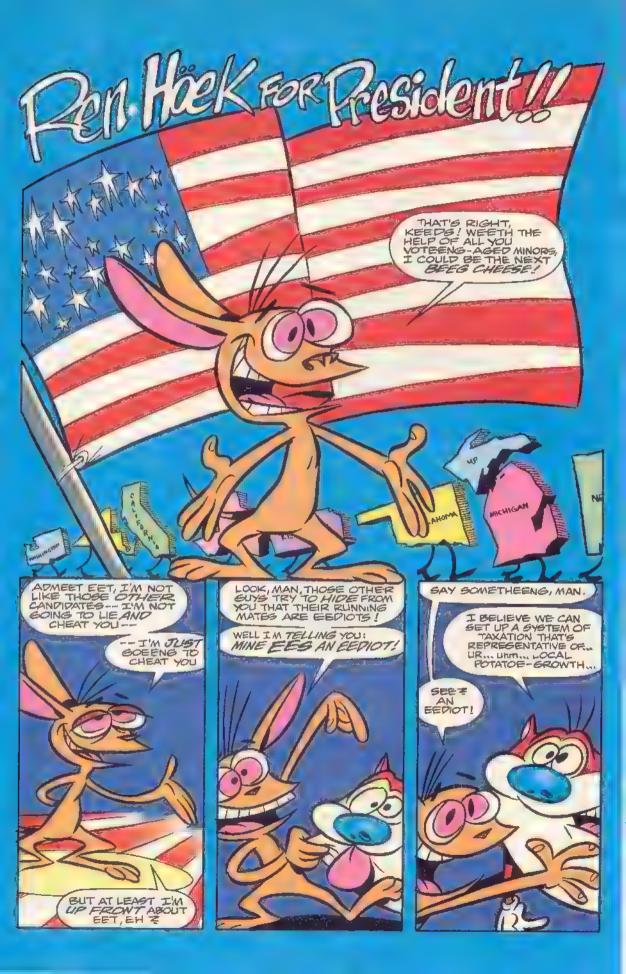
 DARKHOLD #8: It's on the best
- DEATH'S HEAD 2 #8: In full colour!

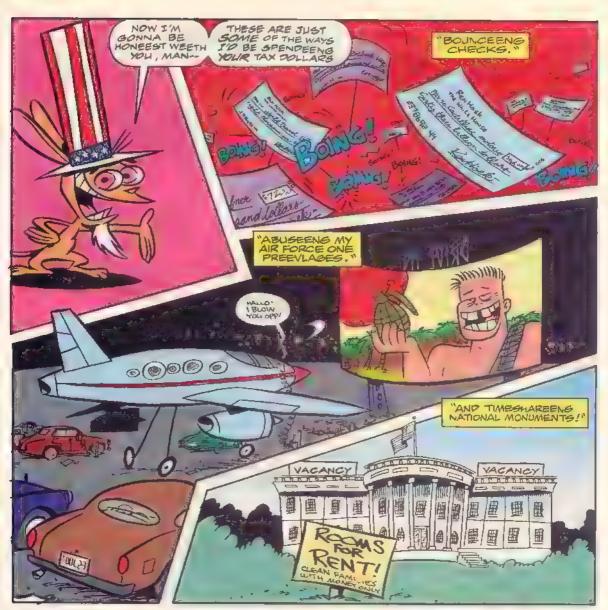
- GHOST RIDER 437: Hark, the
- Archangel sings

 El GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #36: Team up with the Galactic
- INVADERS #1 OF 4: The prestest teroes of World War 2 are back
- III LANCE BARNES: POST NUKE DICK #2 OF 4 Frick" meaning
- PENDRAGON 2 #11: Baron Blood and Union Jack fight tooth and half IN PUNISHER WAR ZONE #15: Frank
- makes a shocking discovery about
- QUASAR #48: It's the all-new RAVAGE 2099 #6: Favage 6 body
- is changing and it ain't puberty

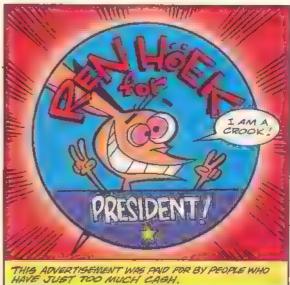
 SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN
- SECRET DEPENDERS (3: The thriting conclusion! Written by Roy No longer a boy now he is a man
- SILVER SABLE #12: Sable confronts her father, the Senior
- SLEEPWALKER #24; We warned Plick — don't switch minds with a
- WILD THING #2: The Virtual Reality
- Venom will make your heart single WOLVERINE #69: in the Savage
- and with Sauron and Rogue! WONDER MAN #21: Wonder Man
- icses a leading ladyi

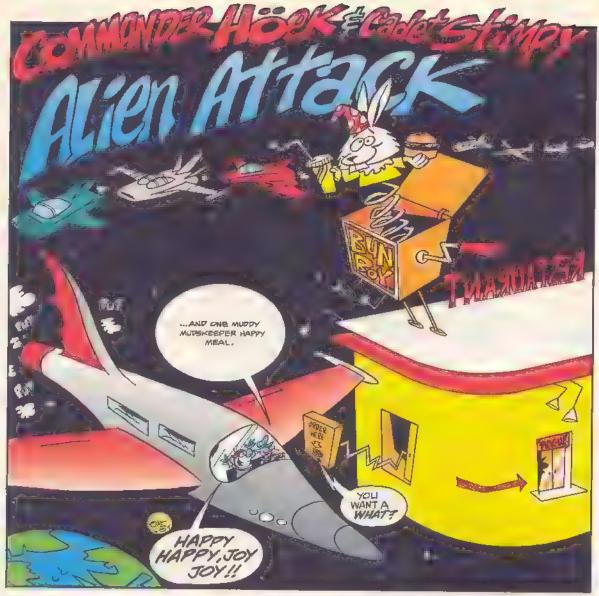
 X-MEN ADVENTURES #7: Get wired for Cable as our hottest mutant makes his Saturday morning



























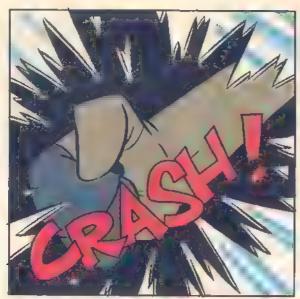














































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